



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

#12
2/25/02
pc

In re Application of:)
Itsuo WATANABE et al.)
Serial No. 09/402,274)
Filed: December 16, 1999)
For: CIRCUIT-CONNECTING MATERIAL)
AND CIRCUIT TERMINAL CON-)
NECTED STRUCTURE etc.)

) Atty. Docket: TM&K0013
) Group Art Unit: 1775
) Examiner: M. E. LAVILLA
) Date: February 21, 2002

RECEIVED
FEB 25 2002
TC 1700

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION/ELECTION REQUIREMENT

BOX: NO FEE RESPONSE

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D. C. 20231

Sir:

In the official Office Action dated January 29, 2002 in the above-captioned application, the Examiner restricted prosecution of the application to a single invention and required that applicants elect one of the following groups for prosecution in this application:

- 170 only continuation
19-22
- I. Claims 1, 2, 24, 28-34, 36 and 38, drawn to a circuit connecting material that contains a hydroxyl containing resin; *depends from Cancelled claim 12*
- II. Claims 8, 9, 25-27 and 37, drawn to a circuit connecting material lacking a hydroxyl group containing resin and containing a curing agent of specified half-life;
- III. Claim 35, drawn to a circuit containing material defined in terms of its DSC profile;
- IV. Claims 20, 22, 39, 41, 42 and 44, drawn to a method of making circuit terminal and article made thereby having a circuit material that contains hydroxyl group containing resin;
- V. Claims 21, 23, 40 and 43, drawn to a method of making circuit terminal and article made thereby having a circuit material that lacks a hydroxyl group containing resin and contains

a curing agent of specified half-life; or

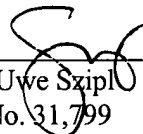
- VI. Claims 19 and 45, drawn to a method of making circuit terminal and article made thereby made from any radically polymerizable connecting material.

Accordingly, in response to the Examiner's Action, applicants respectfully elect with traverse Group I, i.e., claims 1, 2, 24, 28-34, 36 and 38, drawn to a circuit connecting material that contains a hydroxyl containing resin, for prosecution in this application. It is believed that the inventions of the present application are so inter-related that no additional search would be required to examine all claims together and that the U. S. Patent and Trademark Office's and applicants' resources would be economized. However, applicants respectfully reserve the right to file divisional applications directed to the non-elected subject matter.

It is believed that this application is now in condition for examination, and the Examiner's early and favorable consideration is earnestly solicited. Questions are welcomed by the below-signed attorney for applicants.

Respectfully submitted,

GRIFFIN & SZIPL, PC



Joerg-Uwe Szimpl
Reg. No. 31,799

GRIFFIN & SZIPL, PC
Suite PH-1
2300 Ninth Street, South
Arlington, VA 22204

Telephone: (703) 979-5700
Facsimile: (703) 979-7429
Customer No.: 24203